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Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1 (Currently Amended). A fault monitoring method, comprising the steps 1 of: 2 providing a plurality of portable radio communication terminals in 3 a commodity management system, each of which manages commodities by 4 communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication 5 6 base station; automatically executing a test of a radio communication section in 7 arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a number of 8 retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary portable 9 radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station 10 exceeds a predetermined number of times; and 11 displaying a fault of said radio communication section on a display 12 section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when said 13 fault occurs and 14 wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication 15 between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said 16 radio communication base station is set longer than an average 17 communication time of said radio communication between each of said 18 portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication 19 base station in said commodity management system. 20

2. (Previously Presented). A fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management system, each of which manages commodities by communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault monitoring method comprising:

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6	a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication
7	section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a
8	number of retrying times of radio communication between said portable
9	radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station
10	exceeds a predetermined number of times; and
11	a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on
12	a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals
13	when said fault occurs,
14	wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication
15	between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said
16	radio communication base station is set longer than an average
17	communication time of said radio communication between each of said
18	portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication
19	base station in said commodity management system.
1	3. (Previously Presented). A fault monitoring method of a plurality of
2	portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management
3	system, each of which manages commodities by communicating with an
4	inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault
5	monitoring method:
6	a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication
7	section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a
8	number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary
9	portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication
10	base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and
11	a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on
12	a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals
13	when said fault occurs,

wherein said test for said radio communication section is executed

after checking that said radio communication between each of said

portable radio communication terminals other than said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station is vacant continuously in a case out of an execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity management system.

- 4. (Previously Presented). The fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management system according to Claim 3, wherein said test for said radio communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by returning to a check of a vacant state in said case out of said execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity management system when said radio communication between each of said portable radio communication terminals other than said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station and is waited for until said vacant state.
- of portable radio communication terminals used in the commodity management system according to Claim 3, wherein said test for said radio communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by returning to a check of said execution prohibiting time zone of said test in a case in said execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity management system and is waited for until out of said execution prohibiting time zone.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals used in a commodity management system according to Claim 4, wherein said test for said radio communication section is executed after passing a predetermined time by returning to a check of said execution prohibiting time zone of said test in

a case in said execution prohibiting time zone in said commodity
management system and is waited for until out of said execution

prohibiting time zone.

7. (Currently Amended). A storage medium storing a fault monitoring program to cause a computer to carry out a fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals in a commodity management system, each of which commodities by communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault monitoring method comprising:

a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and

a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section on a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when said fault occurs, and

wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station is set longer than an average communication time of said radio communication between each of said portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication base station in said commodity management system.

8. (Currently Amended) A fault monitoring program to cause a computer to carry out a fault monitoring method of a plurality of portable radio communication terminals in a commodity management system, each of which manages commodities by communicating with an inventory controller via a radio communication base station, said fault monitoring

6	method comprising:
7	a step of automatically executing a test of a radio communication
8	section in arbitrary portable radio communication terminals when a
9	number of retrying times of radio communication between said arbitrary
10	portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication
11	base station exceeds a predetermined number of times; and
12	a step of displaying a fault of said radio communication section or
13	a display section of said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals
14	when said fault occurs, and
15	wherein a call time interval of retrying said radio communication
16	between said arbitrary portable radio communication terminals and said
17	radio communication base station is set longer than an average
18	communication time of said radio communication between each of said
19	portable radio communication terminals and said radio communication
20	base station in said commodity management system.